GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:130
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2007
IMPROVED VARIETIES OF VARIOUS CROPS
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any plan for development of high temperature tolerant varieties of wheat, maize and other crops in order to face the challenge of global warming;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the concrete steps taken by the Government to develop high temperature tolerant varieties of crops and to educate the farmers in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA)

(a) & (b): Indian Council of Agricultural Research is laying emphasis on development of crop varieties that are tolerant to high temperature. Wheat varieties such as NIAW 34, RAJ 3765, RAJ 4037 and DBW 14 are capable of withstanding rise in temperature. In rice, varieties namely Rasi, Vajram, Gobind, Uma, Swarna, Salivahana and the hybrids DRRH-2 and Suruchi have high temperature tolerance. Maize hybrids such as HM 5, HQPM 1, Shaktiman 3 and Shaktiman 4 are available which have performed well in high temperatures, experienced particularly during rabi seasons.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) Specific research projects are in operation to develop high temperature tolerant varieties of crops. Farmers and developmental departments are appropriately advised regarding use of tolerant varieties and related management practices.